
FOR HIS FINAL PRESENTATION OF THE TWENTIETH SEASON
AT IVORYTON

From August 29 Thru September 3

MILTON STIEFEL

presents

THE HARTMANS

IN A NEW MUSICAL REVUE

"UP TO NOW"

PRIOR TO BROADWAY

with

Jack Albertson

Staged by Harry Herrmann

Setting by Don Finlayson

Music and Lyrics Mostly By Clay Warnick
Sketches By Harry Herrmann, Ed Rice and Jack Roche
Musical Accompaniment By Phil Ingalis and Jack Ayello

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Dear Friends:

Our twentieth Anniversary season is just about over now, and we feel that in all respects, "the party was a grand affair." Twenty seasons of bringing to Ivoryton the best plays and stars available has brought a lot of satisfaction to all of us connected with the Playhouse. We're proud of our record. But we're just as proud of another element so necessary to the theater—you, our audience, the people who come each week to enjoy our presentations. Your support has justified the work and faith we put into every season to make it a success. It was faith in your appreciation of good theater, for example, that gave us the courage to present as part of our summer program this season an American opera, "The Medium," most unusual summer fare. It was with pleasure that we listened to your laughs coming from the Playhouse during such shows as "Happy Birthday," "Light Up The Sky," "Yes, My Darling Daughter" and "Blithe Spirit." We warmed to the response you exhibited to "The Corn Is Green."

Looking around the country today we see almost 250 summer theaters in every state and section. Then we think back twenty years ago to the time when the only summer stock companies in the United States were at Skowhegan, Maine and Provincetown, Mass. It was then that we took a flyer into summer stock and began a movement that has grown into what might well be called the Renaissance of the stock theater in America. And our venture grew here in Ivoryton

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primarily because we had an audience that appreciated the theater we offered. As the theater movement grew, so did we — from a stock company playing stock plays plus dancing after the show (and all for fifty cents) to the presentation of leading stars and artists in the newest and best plays. After twenty years we are quite proud of our record.

We wish, too, to publicly thank our staff, those who labor far into the night and begin early in the morning — building our sets, spreading the word and handling the many phases of running a summer theater. We appreciate the diligence of the resident company of actors and actresses who give their all to each show, who make every performance their best. We want to thank our neighbors, the merchants and business folks who in many ways help our theater, lending props, giving us poster

space and telling us how they like the shows. The theater belongs to the people. As management, we simply exercise a stewardship over this section of public domain. We hope that this season, that our first twenty years has been to your satisfaction. We know the next twenty years will continue to represent the very best we can do.

Until next season, a happy year to you all.

Most sincerely yours,
Milton Stiefel
Managing Director

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